

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, August 26, 1882, with transcript

Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel (Hubbard) Bell. L Windsor Hotel, Montreal, August 26th, 1882. My sweet darling:

It is too bad that you are not here. You would be the belle of the Association and everyone would admire you and pay you attention while in Newport you are shut out from everything. The swell people of Montreal would all want you at their receptions — and it would soon be known that of the hundreds of scientific men assembled from all parts of the country — I have the nicest and sweetest and prettiest wife. There are many ladies here — but I am sure there is no one so ladylike and refined as you. I am proud of my little wife and want to show you off.

It is not too late yet. Won't you come? If Elsie and Daisy are well why could you not start right off? It would be so nice to have you and Grace here — but if Grace won't come I want you so much that I won't offer any objection to your coming ALONE ! There(!) Won't that tempt you (?) I mean it .

You took the Association by storm at one reception in Cambridge. Everyone remembers you and everyone expresses disappointment that you are not here. I think the change would do you good — and as my mind is now free from the incubus of my paper we can have a nice time together — and return to Newport determined to make some friends among those you want to meet. Come come come . Your poor lonely husband wants you. I will telegraph for you tomorrow — and if you can DO come .

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I am quite delighted with my father's lecture. It is decidedly the best thing he has ever written and will certainly create an interest in "Letters and Sounds — and Visible Speech." It is to be delivered on Monday evening.

The Association will continue in session till Thursday of next week and the members disperse on Friday. I am so excited at the idea of your coming that I can think of nothing else and can write of nothing else. Don't disappoint me if Daisy and Elsie are well. My sweet darling little wife — I love you very much and want you to share with me all the honours I am receiving — do come.

Your loving husband, Alec. Mrs. A. Graham Bell, Newport, R. I.